

# MEDICAID FACTSHEET

## PERSONAL CARE SERVICES

Personal Care Expenditures as %  
of Total Hosp/Med Exp:  
SFY98: 7.08%  
SFY99: 6.44%  
SFY00: 5.74%  
SFY01: 4.79%  
SFY02: 3.57%

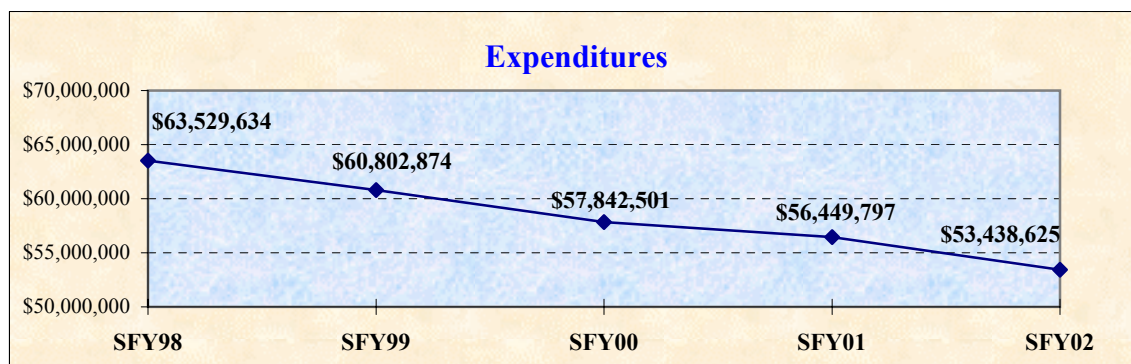
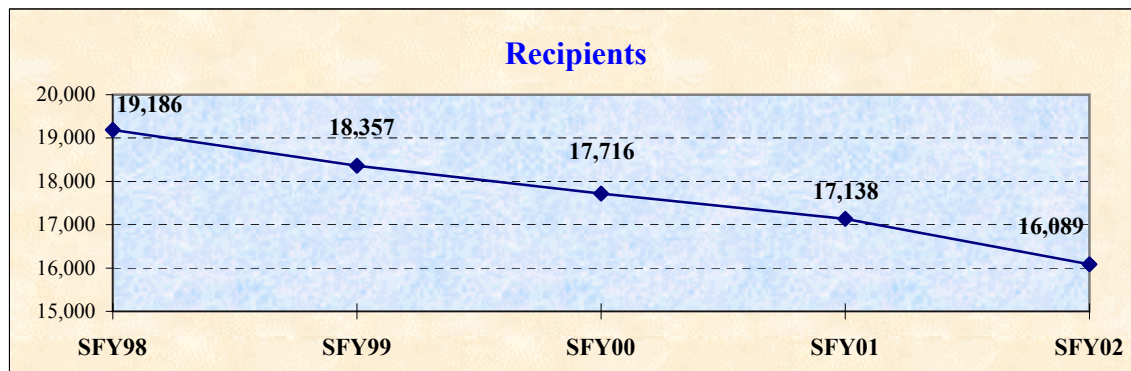
Personal Care Services include medically necessary assistance with defined activities of daily living, such as grooming, bathing, food preparation and eating, etc. Services are rendered in the home.

For EPSDT recipients, under age 21, services may also be provided in DDS community provider facilities or in the public schools. (DDS = Division of Developmental Disabilities Services). Effective for dates of service on and after December 1, 1997, the Arkansas Medicaid Personal Care Program requires prior authorization (PA) of services for clients under the age of 21.

*Personal Care Services is an optional program.*

*Medicaid imposes a 64-hour benefit limit, per month, per client, on personal care aide services for clients aged 21 and over. The 64-hour limitation applies to dates of service on and after August 1, 1997.*

The Arkansas Department of Human Services (DHS) is conducting a scientific study of a consumer-directed personal care program. The program, called "IndependentChoices," operates under the authority of an 1115 research and demonstration waiver approved by the Health Care Financing Administration (HCFA). IndependentChoices offers an opportunity to Medicaid-eligible adults with disabilities (age 18 and older) and the elderly who qualify for personal care, to self-direct their care. IndependentChoices provides qualifying clients with counseling and training to assist them in administering their personal care. Participants also receive a cash allowance with which they may hire an assistant or purchase other services and items related to their personal care. The goal of the IndependentChoices Program is to evaluate the efficiency and feasibility of a Medicaid personal care program that offers consumer direction with a monthly cash allowance.



Source: DSS Reports; Medicaid Statistical Reports; Medicaid Provider Manual